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Attorney Docket No. 100794-10585 (FUJO 14.691)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: N. FUJINO

Serial No.: 08/999,308

Filed: December 27, 1997

Title: COMMUNICATION SYSTEM AND....

Examiner: George ENG

Art Unit: 2643

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Technology Center 2600

May 21, 2003

Director of the U.S. Patent and
Trademark Office
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of documents listed thereon. These documents contain information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

Also attached is a copy of the Japanese Office Action dated April 22, 2003 from the corresponding Japanese Patent Application. All of the documents listed in Form PTO- 1449 appear in the Japanese Office Action.

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As this statement is being filed after the issuance of a final Office Action, a fee of \$180.00 accompanies this document in accordance with 37CFR §§1.97(c) and 1.17(p).

Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

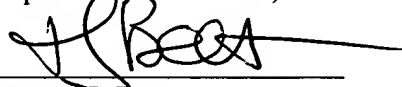
As some of these documents are written in a language other than English, English Language abstracts are annexed thereto explaining its relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 §CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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